

**State of California  
Department of Parks and Recreation  
NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

**TO:** Office of Planning and Research  
1400 Tenth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**FROM:** Department of Parks and Recreation  
1416 Ninth Street  
P.O. Box 942896  
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001

**PROJECT TITLE:** Restroom Facilities Installation - Visitor Center Parking Lot and Vern Whitaker Horse Camp

**LOCATION:** Anza-Borrego Desert State Park

**COUNTY:** San Diego

**DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT:**

A. Install new comfort station (restroom) in parking lot at Anza-Borrego Desert State Park Visitor Center: Provide additional site amenities as required to make surrounding facilities compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

- a. Add new 6 station unisex comfort station (CS) which includes 2 ADA stations
- b. Add 2 HC spaces (parking) at CS.
- c. Provide ADA drinking fountain
- d. Paths of travel modifications to parking lot and at entry
- e. landscaping
- f. ADA bench at new CS
- g. Septic tank/leach field in adjacent area
- h. Utility connections/modifications (water and electricity)

B. Install new combination restroom and shower building at Vern Whitaker Horse Camp and remove existing trailer that is current restroom. Provide additional site amenities as required to make surrounding facilities compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

- a. 1 new combination building (CB) with 2 ADA toilet stations, 2 standard toilet stations and 2 ADA shower compartments. New CB will be built to the north side of the existing trailer.
- b. Add 2 HC spaces (parking) at CB.
- c. Provide ADA drinking fountain
- d. Paths of travel modifications to parking lot and at entry
- e. Septic tank/leach field in adjacent area
- h. Utility connections/modifications (water and electricity)

Soil erosion and runoff will be prevented by implementing DPR-approved Best Management Practices (BMPs) for control of soil erosion, wind erosion and runoff during rainy or windy conditions. If at all feasible, construction will not be planned during the rainy seasons (August 1- October 1 and November 1 through May 1). If concrete is used, BMPs to control release of concrete and associated materials will be implemented. The new restrooms will be built to withstand an earthquake of Richter magnitude 6.6 to 6.8 and peak ground acceleration of 0.5g. A Spill Prevention Plan will be required for the prevention and possible clean-up of any vehicle or equipment spills.

Project supports visitor services and public health, and provides facilities compliant with ADA.

**PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING THE PROJECT:** California Department of Parks and Recreation

**NAME OF DIVISION CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT:** Acquisition and Development Division

**EXEMPT STATUS:** ☒ Categorical Exemption Class: 1, 2, 3 Section: 15301, 15302, 15303

**REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT:** Project consists of the minor alteration of existing structures and features involving negligible expansion beyond current use and is included as "modification of existing facilities for handicap access" in the Department of Parks and Recreation's list of exempt activities, in accordance with CCR 15300.4; replacement of existing facilities where the

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new facility will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced; construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities and is included as "restrooms" in the Department of Parks and Recreation's list of exempt activities, in accordance with CCR 15300.4.

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Original signed by

3/27/06

Christina M. Aceituno, Manager, Accessibility Section

Date